



PATENT APPLICATION

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T.M.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 44046.203.180.2

HARTIG, et al.

Application No.: 10/071,561

Examiner: Glessner, B.

Filed: February 8, 2002

Group Art Unit: 3635

For: EDGE TREATMENTS FOR COATED SUBSTRATES

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Response is filed in connection with the Office Action mailed May 15, 2003 in the above-reference application. The unextended deadline for responding to this Office Action is June 15, 2003. The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 1-11, stated by the Examiner as being drawn to a transparent pane; or
- II. Claims 12-20 and 26-38, stated by the Examiner as being drawn to a multi-pane glass unit and a glazing assembly; or
- III. Claims 21-25, stated by the Examiner as being drawn to a method of treating a coated substrate.

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In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants, through their attorney, provisionally elect the invention of Group II (claims 12-20 and 26-38) with traverse.

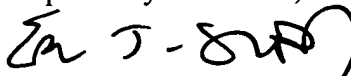
The claims of Groups I-III meet the requirements for consideration in a single application, *inter alia*, in that they each relate to a transparent pane bearing a coating and having a peripheral region that is provided with an edge treatment. Further, Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that no serious burden on the Examiner exists. If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, it must be examined on the merits even though it includes claims directed to distinct or independent invention. M.P.E.P. § 803. The subject matter of Groups I -III are believed sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of either group would encompass a search for the subject matter of both groups. To avoid duplicative examination by the Patent Office and unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants, Applicants respectfully request examination on the merits of all the claims, not just those of Group II.

Furthermore, Applicants submit that if a determination of an allowable generic claim is issued, claims that are written in dependant form or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowed generic claim should be considered. M.P.E.P. § 809.02(c). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider rejoining the claims of Group I and the claims of Group III upon a finding of allowability of the claims of Group II.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees required to Deposit Account No. 061910. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric J. Snustad

Registration No. 45,120

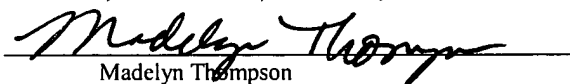
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Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 06-1910.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

9 June 2003
Date of Deposit


Madelyn Thompson

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